

All Is Not Forgotten: A Novel

By Wendy Walker

"This powerful and intense psychological thriller explores the memory of trauma and how it affects our very being. When I6-year-old Jenny Kramer is brutally raped and then given a controversial drug to erase her memory of the event, her parents think it will allow them all to return to their normal, idyllic life in an affluent small town in Connecticut. But that is far from the truth. What ensues is a fascinating look at psychiatric treatment and the lies people tell themselves and others in order to feel whole. Secrets are revealed and integrity is tested as, indeed, all is not forgotten."

-Nancy McFarlane, Fiction Addiction, Greenville, SC

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Arrowood: A Novel

By Laura McHugh

"When her father dies, Arden inherits Arrowood, her childhood home. The town of Keokuk, Iowa, has seen more prosperous days, as has Arrowood, which has stood vacant for years. Arden decides to move back to Keokuk and re-establish the search for her two-year-old twin siblings who disappeared 20 years earlier under her watch. With the help of Ben, her childhood friend and a longtime resident of Keokuk, Arden re-examines the disappearance, hoping to not only find the twins, but also to make peace with her own secrets."

-Brenda Jordan, Murder By The Book, Houston, TX

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As Good as Gone: A Novel

By Larry Watson

"After the death of his wife, Cal Sidey abandoned his children for the life of a solitary ranch hand in Montana. Years later, in 1963, his son Bill asks his father to return home to look after his grandchildren, while Bill tends to a family emergency. The powerful story of Cal's visit is a tragedy of narrowly missed moments as he attempts reentry into a world that no longer has any place for his old-fashioned and violent ways. The prose is clear and lovely, every character is strongly drawn, and Cal Sidey captured my heart while breaking it. Watson has given us a grand Western tragedy, spare and harrowing."

-Kathi Kirby, Powell's Books, Portland, OR



The Bones of Paradise: A Novel

By Jonis Agee

"Agee presents the saga of the Bennett family in the years following the massacre at Wounded Knee. Formed and altered by the unforgiving Nebraska Sandhills, the Bennetts are a rough, conflicted lot, and their story is filled with secrets, lies, betrayals, vengeance, and murder. Agee evokes a lost world and time without sentiment, but with a beautiful subtlety interrupted only by the true horrors of well-researched fact. A must-read for lovers of Western literature, family sagas, and historical fiction."

-Amanda Hurley, Inkwood Books, Tampa, FL

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The Book That Matters Most: A Novel

By Ann Hood

"Hood offers the parallel stories of Ava, who is struggling to build a new life after the end of a long marriage, and her daughter, Maggie, living in Paris and descending into addiction. Ava is invited to join a book club whose members each suggest the book that matters most to them. In Ava's case, a book remembered from her childhood leads to the unraveling of family secrets and a chance to move forward without old sorrows. Hood is a master at exploring the fine line between love and pain."

-Jenny Stroyeck, The Homer Bookstore, Homer, AK

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Faithful: A Novel

By Alice Hoffman

"Faithful is compulsively readable and includes all of the traits we have come to love and expect from an Alice Hoffman novel. It is a coming-of-age tale of the emotional journey of a girl overcome with heart-break after a tragic accident, who is now attempting to redefine herself. It is a hopeful lesson in faith, love, friendship, forgiveness, and opening up to new possibilities. A friendly warning: Expect a craving for Chinese food and a desire to adopt a rescue dog after reading."

-Tarah Jennings, Mitzi's Books, Rapid City, SD

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The German Girl: A Novel

By Armando Lucas Correa

"On May 13, 1939, the *SS St. Louis* set sail from Germany to Cuba with many Jewish passengers fleeing Hitler. Despite all best efforts, they were turned away from Cuba, the U.S., and Canada, forcing the ship to return to Europe, where many of the passengers would die in Hitler's death camps. Correa puts a human face on this shameful episode. Hannah Rosenthal, the daughter of wealthy aristocrats, was 12 when she boarded the *St. Louis*. Seven decades later, Anna Rosen receives a package from an unknown relative in Cuba that inspires her and her mother to travel to Cuba to learn the truth about their family's mysterious and tragic past. A masterful debut!"

-Deon Stonehouse, Sunriver Books & Music, Sunriver, OR



The Heavenly Table: A Novel

By Donald Ray Pollock

"After murdering the tyrannical owner of the land they farmed on the Georgia/Alabama border, three brothers make a desperate run for Canada and manage, along the way, to acquire national reputations as the kind of ruthless outlaws who are immortalized in dime store novels. This is a rollicking and ribald adventure story, populated with shady characters and told in vivid, sparkling prose reminiscent of Patrick DeWitt's *The Sisters Brothers*—and there is hardly a higher compliment.

-Alden Graves, Northshire Bookstore, Manchester Center, VT



A Hundred Thousand Worlds: A Novel

By Bob Proehl

"Nine-year-old Alex and his mom Valerie – the ex-star of a superhero TV show—make their way across the country, Comic-Con by Comic-Con, toward a future of inevitable loss. They visit the fallen heroes, wise women, and wizards of pen-and-ink who have all shaped the story of their lives. Pushed and pulled by so many other people's stories, can Alex and Valerie learn to write their own?"

-Cat Nichols, Bookshop Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA



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Mr. Eternity: A Novel

By Aaron Thier

"Clever, smart, and brilliantly comic as it deals with our humanity, our resilient spirit, and the tremendous challenges that demand our cooperative attention, *Mr. Eternity* is a delight. Who can resist the tale of a 560-year-old American man named Daniel Defoe, who has much wisdom to offer the world and its people. This genre-bending page-turner is a blast to read!"

-Ed Conklin, Chaucer's Books, Santa Barbara, CA



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The River at Night: A Novel

By Erica Ferencik

"What would you do to save the lives of your friends? In this debut novel, Winifred and her three friends are about to find out. Instead of a trip to a comfortable, fancy resort in some exotic destination, they embark on an excursion to the Allagash wilderness in upstate Maine. What happens next is everyone's nightmare, yet it leads to the kind of wisdom few people ever achieve. This is a tense, disturbing, yet satisfying story of the strength of friendship in the face of a severe challenge."

-Linda Bond, Auntie's Bookstore, Spokane, WA



The Summer That Melted Everything: A Novel

By Tiffany McDaniel

"There are hundreds of coming-of-age stories, but the one told in *The Summer That Melted Everything* is unique. In the summer of I984, a series of disturbing events in Breathed, Ohio, are attributed to the arrival of a I3-year-old boy named Sal who claims to be the devil. Gossip and superstitions, exacerbated by the sweltering heat, turn the villagers against Sal. Only the family of the local prosecutor welcomes the boy, who is befriended by their son, Fielding. McDaniel offers an original meditation on what is right and wrong, good and evil, in a magical, heart-wrenching, and unforgettable novel."

-Pierre Camy, Schuler Books & Music, Grand Rapids, MI

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